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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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Honorable Mark O. Hatfield United States Senator One World Trade Center 121 S.W. Salmon Street, Suite 1420 Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Senator Hatfield:

This is in reply to your letter of January 27, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Chief David Oelrich, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the <u>Notice</u> reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u>, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the <u>Notice</u> that describes the numerous proposals.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of users of private land mobile radio spectrum and the impact that these proposals may have on their radio systems, including the costs of required modifications.

We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the <u>Notice</u>, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u> are due February 26, 1993, and Reply Comments are due April 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued near the end of 1993. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Haller Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosure: Notice

CNTL NO - 9300349

cc:

Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&MDivison
Deputy Chief, LM&M Division
Lou Sizemore, Room 857
Docket Files, Room 222
Licensing Div., PRB, c/o Room 5202
P&P Branch Files

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Congressional

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS, AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/02/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO. DATE RECEIVED DATE OF CORRESP DATE DUE DATE DUE OLA (857) 9300349 02/02/93 01/27/93 02/15/93 MEMBERS NAME REPLY FOR SIG OF ______ Mark Hatfield Senator CONSTITUENT'S NAME inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235 David Oelrich REF TO REF TO REF TO REF TO PRB / 2000 DATE DATE DATE 02/02/93

REMARKS: Respond to the Portland, OR office.

MARK O. HATFIELD SPECIAL DISTRICTS CENTER 727 CENTER STREET N.E., SUITE 305 SALEM, OREGON 97301

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3701

January 27, 1993

ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER
121 S.W. SALMON STREET, SUITE 1420
PORTLAND, OREGON 97204

MARK O. HATFIELD

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim Federal Communications Commission Director, Legislative Affairs 1919 M Street N.W., Room 800 Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I recently received from Chief David Oelrich.

I would be very grateful for your comments about the issues raised in this letter. So that I can respond to this individual, please send your comments to me at One World Trade Center, 121 S.W. Salmon, Suite 1420, Portland, Oregon 97204.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Mark O. Hatfield United States Senator

MOH/tr Enclosure 97874

POLICE DEPARTMENT

City of Myrtle Creek

P.O. Box 940 • Telephone 863-5221 Myrtle Creek, Oregon 97457

January 11, 1993

U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield 711 Hart Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510

Re: Federal Communications Commission Notice of Proposed

Rule Changes, Docket #92-235

Dear Sir:

Law Enforcement needs all the help we can get to see that FCC Proposed Rule Change, Docket Number 92-235, does not become law. A law such as this would totally devastate law enforcement communications.

Sincerely,

David A. Oelrich Chief of Police

DAO: emc